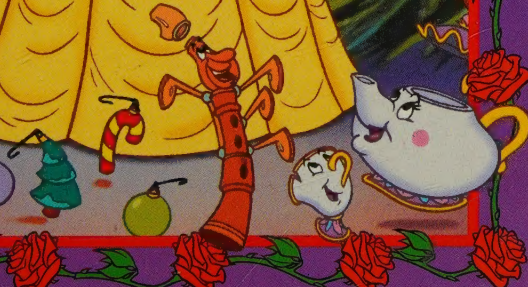


Disney's  
*Beauty*  
AND THE BEAST  
— THE —  
ENCHANTED CHRISTMAS



Ladybird









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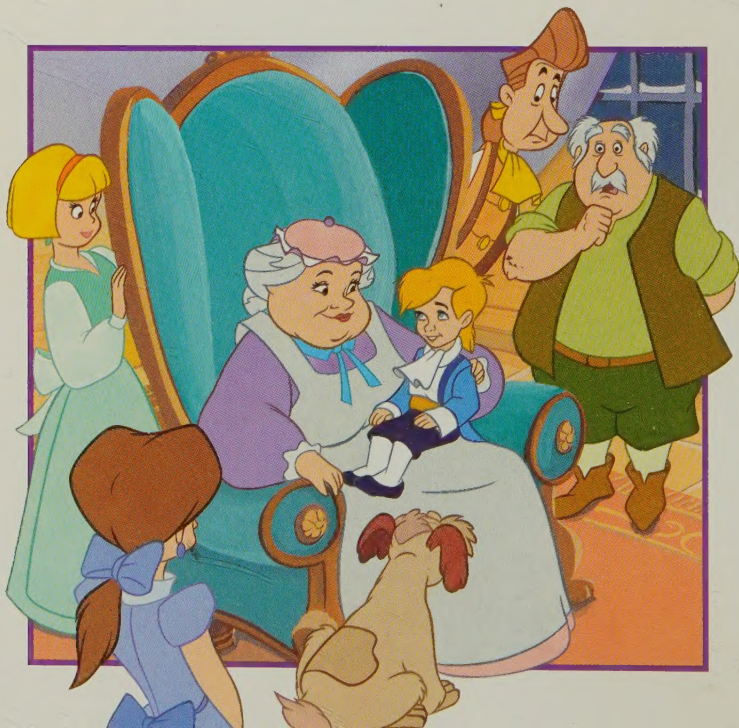
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All the servants in the Prince's castle were ready for Christmas. They were gathered in the great hall, waiting for Belle and the master to arrive. Then the celebrations would begin.

Mrs Potts chuckled. "Mind you," she said, "last Christmas was quite nice too. But, of course, things were different then. It's quite a story..."







*“Last Christmas Eve, the Master had forbidden any celebrations. But we servants didn’t mind. We watched happily as Belle taught the Master to ice-skate. We were sure she would be the one to break the spell that had changed our lives completely.”*

Nearby, in the west wing, weird organ music filled the air. As the sound faded, Fife the Piccolo clapped alone.

"Thank you, Fife," said Maestro Forte. "But did I hear merriment?"

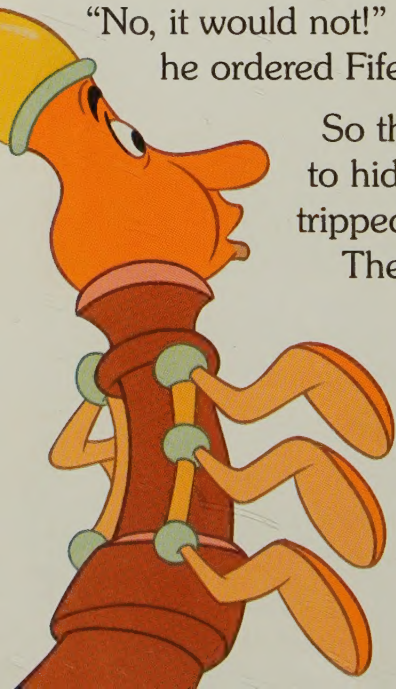
"It's Belle and the Master outside," answered Fife. "Wouldn't it be wonderful if the spell were to be broken and we were to become human again?"

"No, it would not!" snapped Forte, and he ordered Fife to stop the skating.

So the little piccolo went to hide near the ice and tripped up the happy pair.

They fell into the snow.

Belle laughed. But the Beast looked down at his ugly shape in the snow and turned away angrily.







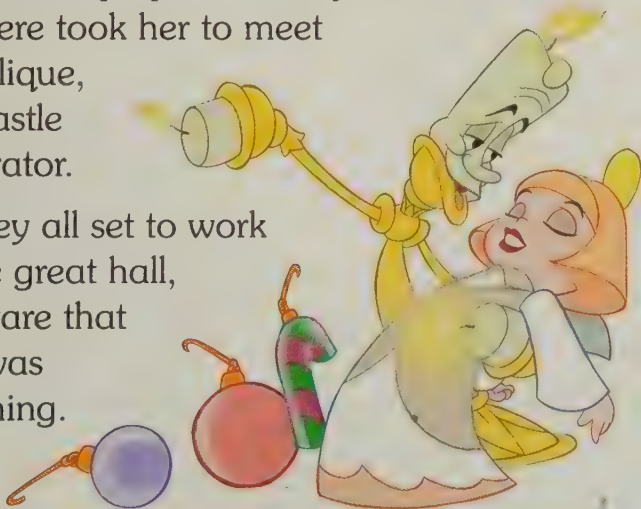
He went straight to the west wing,  
where Forte was playing a sad tune.  
“I hate Christmas!” the Beast  
said. “Go on  
playing, Forte.  
It helps me  
to forget.”





Belle, meanwhile, persuaded the servants to prepare secretly for Christmas. Lumiere took her to meet Angelique, the castle decorator.

They all set to work in the great hall, unaware that Fife was watching.





The little piccolo rushed to tell Forte – and Forte told the Beast.

“Perhaps she doesn’t know that Christmas was the day our normal life here ended,” said the Beast.

He thought sadly of his time as a human prince. Nothing had pleased him then. And when an old beggar woman came to the door asking for shelter in exchange for a rose, he had turned her rudely away.



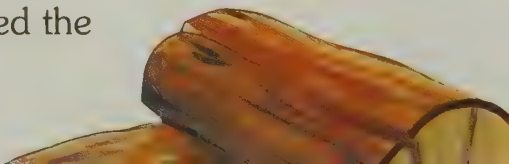


Instantly she cast a spell, turning him into a hideous beast and all his servants into household objects. "Unless you find someone to love you as you are," she had warned him, "you will remain a beast for ever."



The Beast left his memories and got up to search for Belle. She was in the cellar, looking for a Yule log. He burst in through the door.

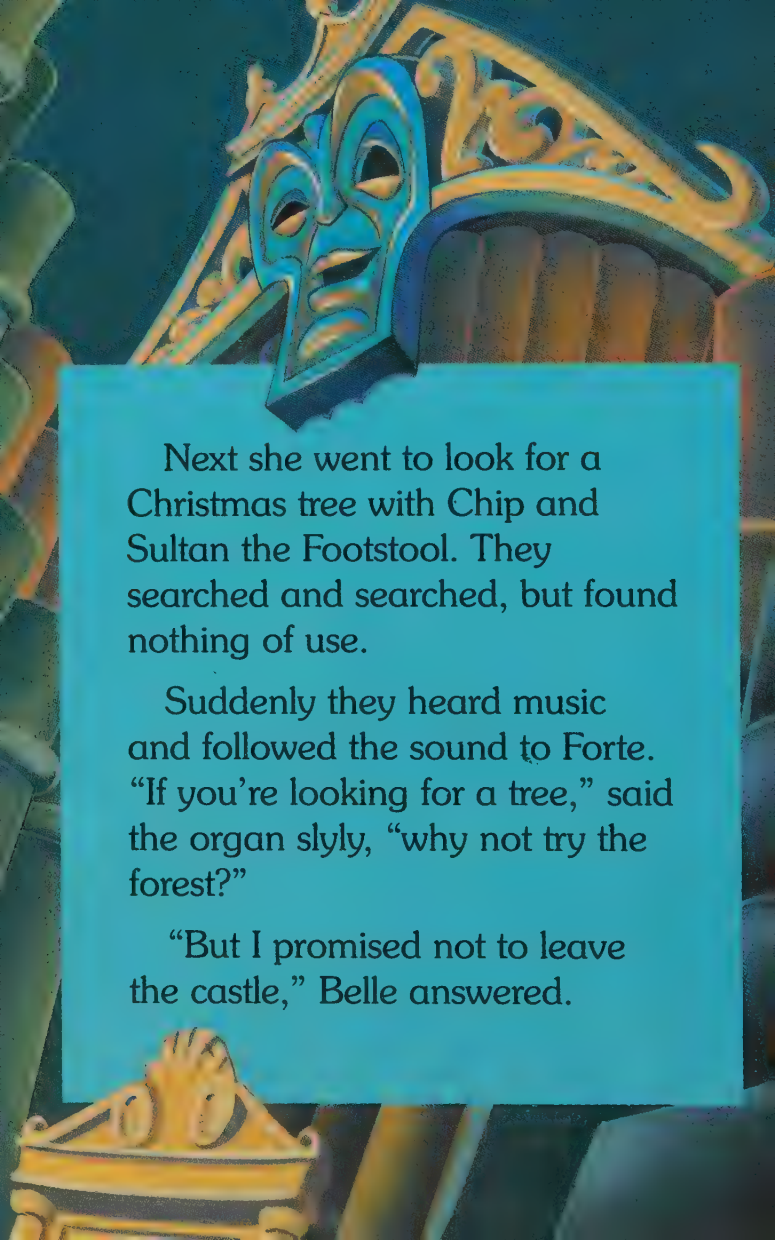
“There will be no Christmas in this castle!” roared the Beast.





But Belle refused to take any notice.  
When his back was turned, she crept into  
the west wing and left a surprise present  
for the Beast.





Next she went to look for a Christmas tree with Chip and Sultan the Footstool. They searched and searched, but found nothing of use.

Suddenly they heard music and followed the sound to Forte. "If you're looking for a tree," said the organ slyly, "why not try the forest?"

"But I promised not to leave the castle," Belle answered.

Forte soon persuaded her, and she left with Chip and her horse, Philippe. No sooner had she gone than the Beast

wanted her. He looked in the magic mirror and saw her in the forest.

The Beast thought she had left him.

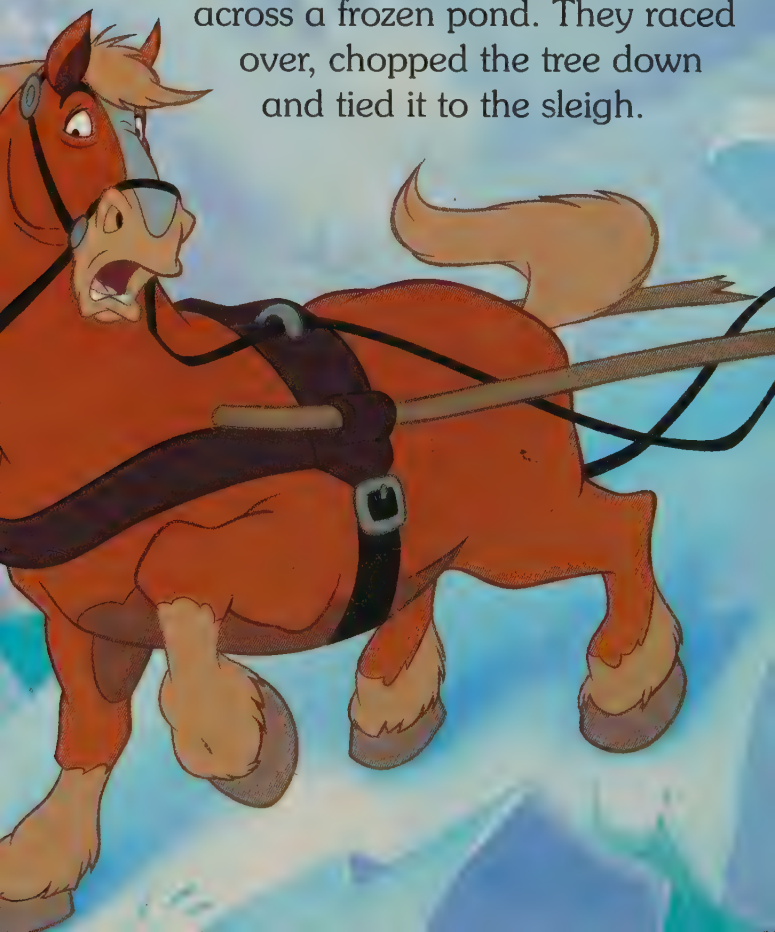
He was angry and heartbroken.





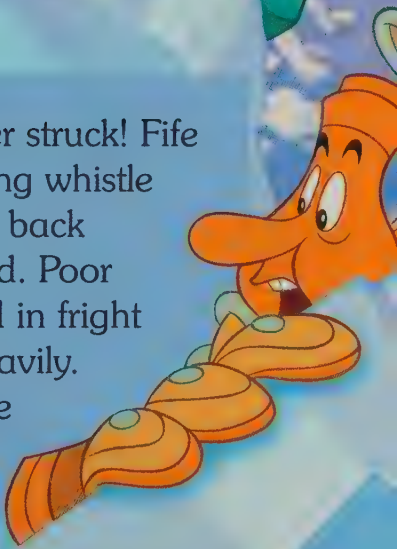
Meanwhile, Belle and her friends travelled through the forest. Fife was hiding in the sleigh. Forte had ordered him to make sure Belle did not return.

Belle and Chip saw the perfect tree across a frozen pond. They raced over, chopped the tree down and tied it to the sleigh.





Then disaster struck! Fife let out a piercing whistle as they started back across the pond. Poor Philippe reared in fright and landed heavily. Instantly the ice broke up.



While Philippe struggled ashore, Belle dived under and saved Chip. Lumiere and Cogsworth arrived and they all watched anxiously. But Belle was so exhausted that she slipped back into the water and the ice closed over her head.







Just when they thought all was lost, the Beast arrived. He broke through the ice and rescued Belle.

Everyone cheered. But the Beast said nothing and strode back to the castle with Belle in his arms. By now it was Christmas Day.





The Beast was still angry with Belle and threw her straight into the castle dungeon. “You broke your promise!” he roared and stormed away.

The servants came to wish Belle a merry Christmas, and Angelique sang a special song to cheer her up.

The Beast found Belle's present in the west wing. He opened it and discovered a storybook. He sat down and read of an enchanted castle, its cruel master and the gift of hope...

The Beast was touched by the present and went to ask Belle's forgiveness.

"Of course," she said, smiling.





But Maestro Forte was furious. “It’s time to bring the house down!” he growled menacingly. Then he started to play with all his might.


As the terrible music thundered out, the castle started to shake. A huge gap opened in the dungeon between Belle and the Beast. The servants huddled in fear around her.



Fife rushed back to the west wing. He had to find a way to stop the Maestro. Fife realised he had been wrong to trust Forte.

The organ cackled grimly. "I will not let the spell be broken. We will stay as we are for ever!" Then he played even louder.





Down in the dungeon, the Beast managed to rescue his friends. “Quick, we must stop Maestro Forte,” he shouted.

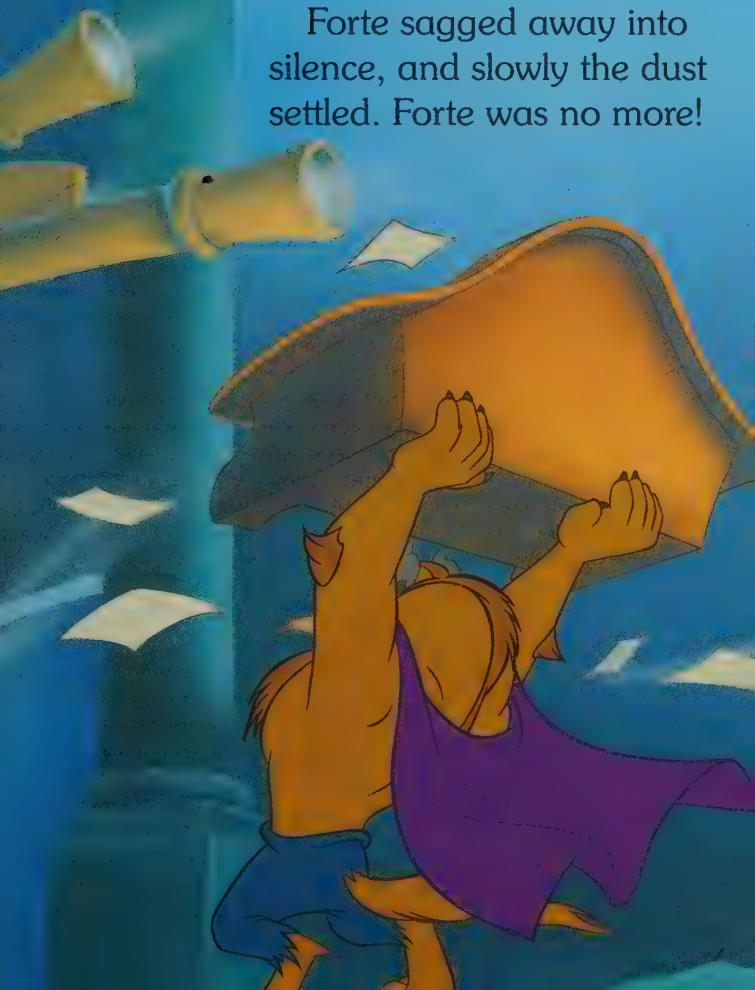
As they went closer, the music grew so powerful that it sent them staggering back. “Enough!” ordered the Beast.

But Forte just laughed and played on.

Fife piped up, “His keyboard! He is nothing without it. We must get rid of his keyboard!”

The Beast stepped forward and ripped it away with his powerful hands.

Forte sagged away into silence, and slowly the dust settled. Forte was no more!





“So Angelique decorated the Christmas tree beautifully and it glistened like magic. Then our Christmas celebrations really began. And what a wonderful time it was!” remembered Mrs Potts, finishing off her story. “And, of course, Belle did break the spell!”

At that moment Belle and the Prince came into the great hall. They had a present for Chip. It was a book.

Fife played a Christmas carol and everyone joined in. They knew that this would be the happiest Christmas of all!











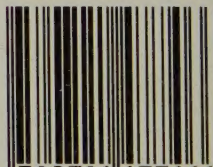
It's Belle's first Christmas  
at the castle and she  
wants to make it special  
for the Beast. But Forte  
is determined that the  
spell on the castle will  
never be broken...



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